

Argument against Proposition 89

Don't be fooled by Proposition 89. Prop. 89 is NOT about cleaning up politics. But it is 56 pages of new, complicated, confusing election rules that won't work.

Proposition 89 was put on the ballot by a single special interest group, the California Nurses Association, that wants an UNFAIR advantage in California elections while small businesses and individuals are effectively SHUT OUT of the political process. Even other labor organizations like those representing teachers, firefighters and law enforcement do not support Proposition 89, because it RESTRICTS their participation in the political process as well.

PROPOSITION 89: NOT JUST ABOUT BIG CORPORATIONS

The authors of Prop. 89 say they are trying to stop big corporations from having too much influence. But Proposition 89 restricts many small businesses from backing candidates or supporting and opposing initiatives. Even a mom-and-pop business, if it is incorporated like many are, is restricted under Prop. 89.

Proposition 89 also restricts many non-profit groups that want to educate voters about the issues they care about. For example, a group of crime victim advocates will be limited in warning voters about a candidate who is soft on crime. Teachers will be limited in helping elect candidates who will support improving our schools.

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PROPOSITION 89: INCREASES TAXES TO PAY FOR NEGATIVE CAMPAIGNS

California has many urgent priorities to get our state back on the right track.

Proposition 89 contains a \$200 MILLION TAX INCREASE and gives that money to politicians to spend on their negative TV ads and junk mail.

Proposition 89 places virtually no limits on how the politicians spend their taxpayer-financed campaign funds. It means that *we, the taxpayers, will be paying for their negative ads!*

PROPOSITION 89: WON'T STOP WEALTHY CANDIDATES

Proposition 89 puts no limits on wealthy candidates who try to buy California elections.

Under Proposition 89, a politician using taxpayer funds and running against a wealthy candidate can get up to *ten times the normal taxpayer money* to run his campaign. A candidate for Governor could qualify for up to \$200 million of taxpayer money to run his or her campaign.

PROPOSITION 89: IT'S UNCONSTITUTIONAL!

James Hall, past Chairman of the California Fair Political Practices Commission, says:

“Proposition 89 is unconstitutional, unfair, and won’t work.”

Supporters of 89 say it is modeled after measures in other states. But the United States Supreme Court recently found the contribution and expenditure limits in a similar measure from Vermont unconstitutional because they limit free speech and violate the First Amendment.

PROPOSITION 89: WE ALREADY HAVE CAMPAIGN LIMITS.

Californians have already passed a campaign finance reform law, Proposition 34, which strictly limits contributions to candidates. This law has survived several court challenges and is working. We don’t need Prop. 89.

SAY NO to PROPOSITION 89!

Proposition 89 is unfair to small businesses, non-profits and groups representing working Californians. It is a waste of our precious tax dollars, it’s unconstitutional, and it’s just

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another confusing measure that won't work. Please join small businesses, taxpayers, educators, organized labor and so many others in voting NO on Proposition 89.

s/ Allan Zaremborg, President
California Chamber of Commerce

s/ Tony Quinn, Former Commissioner
California Fair Political Practices Commission

s/ Larry McCarthy, President
California Taxpayers' Association